

TABLE C-3: LISTED ANIMALS WITHIN DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

ANIMAL SPECIES		LISTING STATUS		HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	THREATS	IMPORTANCE OF NEMO TO LONG-TERM CONSERVATION OF THE SPECIES
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal	State				
BIRDS							
Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>		Threatened	Breeds in juniper-sage flats, riparian areas and in oak savanna. Requires adjacent suitable foraging areas such as grasslands, alfalfa or grain fields supporting rodent populations. Trees are important nesting habitat in desert.	Western half of U.S., w Canada, ne MX. In CA, primarily migrants throughout planning area. Has been recorded at the Amargosa Canyon Natural Area and its immediate drainage and at MOJA ¹ and DEVA ² . Owens Valley supports a small breeding population	Although formerly abundant in CA, loss of nesting habitat has reduced the state's population significantly. Off-site pesticide use is another significant threat.	The planning area encompasses little of the species' total range.
western yellow billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>		Endangered	Riparian forest nester, along the broad lower flood-bottoms of larger river systems. Nests in riparian jungles of willow, often mixed with cottonwoods, with lower story of blackberry, nettles, or wild grape.	Probably only 50 pairs of cuckoos are presently in CA (primarily at Kern & Sacramento Rivers). Has been recorded at Amargosa Canyon Natural Area and at DEVA, also at Prado Basin, Mojave R. (Victorville), Owens Valley, Santa Clara R. CA summer migrant.	Habitat loss and fragmentation due to clearing of riparian stands for flood control, land reclamation, agriculture and urbanization. Lowering water tables due to irrigation, construction of dams and urban growth. Exotic vegetation and grazing.	The planning area encompasses little of the species' total range.

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal	State				
southwestern willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	Endangered	(<i>Empidonax traillii</i> is State listed Endangered)	Inhabit extensive thickets of low, dense willows on edge of wet meadows, ponds, or backwaters. Require dense willow thickets for nesting and roosting; low, exposed branches are used for singing posts and hunting perches. 2000–8000 ft elev.	Only 300-500 nesting pairs thought to exist over species' entire range (70 pairs in CA). Breeding range includes s CA, s NV, s UT, NM, w TX; (possibly sw CO, n Baja, CA and Sonora, MX). Recorded at Amargosa Canyon Natural Area, DEVA, and at least at the species level at MOJA.	Cowbird parasitism and habitat modification are primary threats; the latter from: water diversion, livestock grazing (including destruction of nests by cattle). ORV / OHV ³ and other recreational uses.	Certain wetlands in NEMO are ephemeral sites for SWWF. Because migration routes and wintering grounds are not well known and habitat patches as small as 0.5 hectares can support 1-2 nesting pairs, the planning area may be of some although limited importance to species recovery.
least Bells vireo	<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	Endangered	Endangered	Riparian; willow-cottonwood forest, oak woodland, shrubby thickets and dry washes established with arroyo willows. Small amounts of aquatic and herbaceous cover. Dense shrub layer from 2.0 to 9.9 ft above ground.	Only in CA and Baja CA. Small scattered areas in south/south-central CA; coastal/inland. Currently breeds in few scattered riparian habitat in s CA, in Amargosa River. Has been recorded at Amargosa Canyon Natural Area and its immediate drainage; also at DEVA.	Loss of riparian habitat. Brood parasitism by brown-headed cowbirds. Susceptibility to rapid local extinction resulting from disease outbreak or increase in predators or parasites. Nest predation by birds, snakes and mammals.	The planning area represents fringe habitats for LBV and low numbers of documented birds, given depleted habitats near large population centers in southern CA; however, NEMO management may contribute to species recovery.
MAMMALS							
Mohave ground squirrel	<i>Spermophilus mohavensis</i>	(Former C2) NPS SS	Threatened	Open desert scrub, alkali desert scrub, Joshua tree woodland. Feed in annual grasslands. Prefers sandy to gravelly soils. Avoids rocky areas; uses burrows at base of shrubs for cover; nests are in burrows. 1800–5000 feet elevation.	Western Mojave Desert, Inyo, Kern, San Bernardino, Los Angeles counties. Has been recorded at DEVA and BLM ⁴ .	Degradation of habitat by agriculture, OHV / ORV activity, military maneuvers, livestock grazing. Isolation of individual populations due to habitat fragmentation.	

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AMPHIBIANS							
black toad	<i>Bufo exsul</i>	(Former C2)	Threatened	Near springs, watercourses, marshes, wet meadows. Seek cover under and between clumps of vegetation, surface objects. 5000–52000 ft elev.	Found only in Deep Springs Valley between the White and Inyo Mountains. Mostly at Corral Springs, Bog Mound Springs and Buckhorn Springs and a few at Antelope Springs 5 miles to the north. Has been recorded at DEVA and BLM.	State threatened due to naturally small populations and restricted habitat. Water development and diversion. Vulnerability to excessive vegetation growth surrounding its habitat.	The planning area is important to the recovery of this species.
REPTILES							
desert tortoise	<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>	Threatened	Threatened	Wide variety of habitats including alluvial fans, desert washes, broad valleys, creosote bush communities with annual flower blooms. Friable soil for digging burrows.	Mojave Desert portions of CA, NV, and north of the Colorado River in AZ and southwestern UT. Has been recorded at DEVA, MOJA, and BLM.	Upper respiratory tract and shell lesion diseases. Collection. Predation by ravens and canids. Conflicts with livestock and feral burros (trampling). Direct mortality and injury by humans from poaching, shooting, OHV / ORV use.	NEMO includes roughly 10-15% of total critical habitat designated for DT. Populations receive relatively few human impacts and may be relatively disease-free as compared with western Mojave populations, an important consideration for species recovery.
FISH							
Devils Hole Pupfish	<i>Cyprinodon diabolis</i>	Endangered	NV Critically Endangered		Occurs only at Devils Hole in NV (NPS administered) but part of the larger system that includes Ash Meadows. Endemic to DEVA Class I. ⁵	Groundwater mining in Ash Meadows directly lowers the water level in Devil's Hole and progressively exposes the shallow limestone shelf upon which the pupfish depend for food and spawning.	This species occurs entirely within the planning area at DEVA.

STATUS EXPLANATIONS

Federal

NPS SS = National Park Service Sensitive Species = Any species or infraspecies not otherwise designated whose population characteristics warrant special management or more intensive monitoring. Consideration may include but is not limited to: local rarity; endemism, Park management objectives, usefulness of species as an indicator species, vulnerability to population declines; human disturbance; political concern / public interest

NOTES

¹ MOJA = Mojave National Preserve

² DEVA = Death Valley National Park

³ OHV/ORV = Off-Highway Vehicles or Off-Road Vehicles

⁴ BLM = Bureau of Land Management public lands within the NEMO Planning Area

⁵ Endemic to DEVA Class I = Entire distribution occurs within the boundary of the former Death Valley National Monument

TABLE C-4: LISTED AND PROPOSED PLANTS WITHIN DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

PLANT SPECIES		LISTING STATUS		CNPS	CNPS RED CODE	HABITAT	DISTRIBUTION	THREATS	IMPORTANCE OF NEMO TO LONG-TERM CONSERVATION OF THE SPECIES
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal	State	CNPS					
shining milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> var. <i>micans</i>	Proposed Threatened		1B	3-2-3	Desert dunes forming dense clumps along the lower slopes of mobile dunes. +/- 3050–3100 ft elev.	Northern Mojave Desert (Eureka Valley). More strongly perennial, with longer hairs than similar plants of the variety ' <i>variabilis</i> .'	Trampling, OHV / ORV ¹ use, noxious weed invasion (Russian thistle).	The entire known range of this variety is within the planning area.
Spring loving centaury	<i>Centaureum namophilum</i>	Threatened	NV Critically Endangered				Eastern Mojave Desert, Ash Meadows. (According to Jepson, all are apparently <i>C. exaltatum</i>). Has been recorded at DEVA. ²		
July gold	<i>Dedeckera eurekaensis</i>	BLM SS	CA Rare	1B	2-1-3	Mojavean desert scrub; limestone outcrops, on rocky ridges, cliffs, talus slopes, and sometimes in washes, restricted to carbonate soils, restricted to Bonanza King Formation dolomite and Polet Formation limestone. 4000–7200 ft elev.	Ten disjunct occurrences in the Last Chance, Inyo, White and Panamint Mountains (Inyo County, CA). Locations is rocky canyons west of Saline Valley, especially Hunter Canyon; also found on Owen' s Valley slopes. Has been recorded at DEVA and BLM. ³	Mining, OHV / ORV use, small hydroelectric development, possibly collecting for firewood.	
Ash meadows sunray	<i>Enceliopsis nudicaulis</i> var. <i>corrugata</i>	Threatened	NV Critically Endangered	4	1-1-1	<i>E. nudicaulis</i> is found in Great Basin scrub, Mojavean desert scrub, stony hillsides and canyons, calcareous substrates. 3100–6600 ft elev.	<i>E. nudicaulis</i> is uncommon. White and Inyo Mountains, desert mountains to ID, UT, northern AZ. Also in Last Chance Mountains.		

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rock lady	<i>Maurandya petrophila</i>	BLM SS	CA Rare	1B	3-2-3	Mojavean desert scrub, limestone crevices of canyons, narrow steep canyon walls within limestone crevices, shaded from afternoon sun. 3600–5000 ft elev.	Northern Mojave Desert, Titus, Fall Canyons, Death Valley region, Inyo County.		
Eureka Dunes evening primrose	<i>Oenothera californica</i> ssp. <i>eurekensis</i>	Endangered	CA Rare	1B	3-2-3	Desert dunes (away from slopes), generally with <i>Psoralea polydenius</i> . 2950–3950 ft elev.	Northernmost Mojave Desert (Eureka Valley). Populations are few but large. Known from fewer than five occurrences in the Eureka Dunes.	Trampling, occasional off-road driving, noxious weed invasion (Russian thistle).	
Eureka Valley dunegrass	<i>Swallenia alexandrae</i>	Endangered	CA Rare	1B	3-2-3	Desert dunes; active desert dunes. 2900–4000 ft elev.	White and Inyo Mountains (Eureka Valley in northeastern Inyo County). The only known populations in the world are in the Eureka Dunes. Only four populations are known all in southern Eureka Valley in relatively deep sand.	Unauthorized OHV / ORV use and other unmanaged recreational dune use.	The total range of the species is within the planning area.

STATUS EXPLANATIONS

Federal

BLM SS = BLM Sensitive Species = Sensitive species are those designated by a State Director, usually in cooperation with the State agency responsible for managing the species as sensitive. They are those species that are: (1) under status review by the FWS/NMFS; or (2) whose numbers are declining so rapidly that Federal listing may become necessary; or (3) with typically small and widely dispersed populations; or (4) those inhabiting ecological refugia or other specialized or unique habitats.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS)

List 1A = Plants presumed extinct in California

List 1B = Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and elsewhere

List 2 = Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but more common elsewhere

List 3 = Plants about which we need more information--a review list

List 4 = Plants of limited distribution--a watch list

CNPS RED CODE

R (Rarity)

1 = Rare, but found in sufficient numbers and distributed widely enough that the potential for extinction is low at this time

2 = Distributed in a limited number of occurrences, occasionally more if each occurrence is small

3 = Distributed in one to several highly restricted occurrences, or present in such small numbers that it is seldom reported

E (Endangerment)

1 = Not endangered

2 = Endangered in a portion of its range

3 = Endangered throughout its range

D (Distribution)

1 = More or less widespread outside California

2 = Rare outside California

3 = Endemic to California

¹ OHV/ORV = Off-highway vehicle, off-road vehicle

² DEVA = Death Valley National Park

³ BLM = Bureau of Land Management public lands within the NEMO Planning Area